



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING
PO Box 9026, Olympia, Washington 98507-9026

June 1, 2004

IMPORTANT LICENSE INFORMATION LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

Please read this notice and keep it for future reference as it contains important information about your license. The past legislative session resulted in some major changes in how the Department of Licensing regulates the 55,000 persons involved in the cosmetology, barber, manicuring and esthetic industry. Among the changes are a **requirement to re-take the licensing examinations** after a license has expired for one year, and a new licensing status category of **"inactive status."** Additionally, the updated law also clarifies that **it is unlawful to work** in this industry without a current license.

During the 2004 session, Substitute Senate Bill 6341 was passed and became effective March 22, 2004. **This summary discusses how the regulations are changing in your field of work and may impact your license.** If you have questions or concerns, you may contact the Department of Licensing Cosmetology Program. Contact information is provided at the end of this summary.

- **License in good standing** - It is unlawful for any person to engage in the practice of Cosmetology, Barbering, Manicuring, Esthetics, operate a school or instruct in a school unless the person has a license in good standing. A license is considered to be in good standing unless the license: (1) has expired or canceled and has not been renewed, (2) the license has been denied, revoked or suspended, (3) the license is held by a person who has not complied with an order of the Director of the Department of Licensing requiring the licensee to pay restitution or a fine or to acquire additional training, or (4) the license has been placed on an inactive status.
- **Inactive Status** – The holder of an individual license in good standing, who does not intend to practice in the profession for which they hold a license, may submit a written and notarized request that their license be placed on an inactive status. The request for an inactive status must be submitted along with a fee that is equivalent to a duplicate license (currently \$15). The inactive status will remain in effect until the expiration date of the license. A request to extend the inactive status of a license can only be made once every two years and must be submitted prior to the expiration date of the inactive status. A license may not remain in an inactive status for more than **six consecutive years**. A license that has not been renewed by the expiration date of the inactive status shall be canceled (see canceled license).

- **Reinstatement of an Inactive license** – Payment of a renewal fee, without penalty, will reinstate a license that was placed on an inactive status. The license will be renewed for a two-year period commencing on the date that the license is reinstated. If the license was on inactive status during a time that the Cosmetology, Barbering, Esthetics, and Manicuring Advisory Board determines that health or other requirements applicable to the license have changed, the licensee must provide evidence showing that the license holder has successfully completed the number of curriculum clock hours of instruction that the Board deems necessary to bring the licensee current with industry changes. The maximum number of instruction hours required shall not exceed four hours for each year that the license was on an inactive status.
- **Canceled license** – A license that has not been renewed within one year after its expiration date will become canceled. The license holder will be required to submit an application, pay the licensing fee, meet current licensing requirements and pass any applicable examination or examinations in order to reinstate the license.
- **Provisions to add a license** – During the 2003 legislative session Senate Bill 6652 was passed and the practices of cosmetology, manicuring, and esthetics were further defined resulting in fewer overlaps in the functions performed under each license. Cosmetology now includes a limited practice in manicuring and esthetics while the practices of manicuring and esthetics are updated and expanded to reflect actual current practice. Substitute Senate Bill 6341 extends the opportunity for individuals that held a cosmetology license in good standing between June 30, 1999 and June 30, 2003 to request **the addition of a license in barbering, manicuring or esthetics**. A renewal fee will be required for each license you wish to add. The duration of any additional licenses issued during this timeframe may be modified so that all licenses held by one licensee will expire on the same date. **This option is available until June 30, 2005.** After that date, licensees wishing to obtain an additional license in barbering, manicuring or esthetics must meet current licensing requirements and pass any applicable examination or examinations in order to obtain the license.
- **Renewal of expired licenses** – If you are an individual that held a license(s) in good standing at any time between June 30, 1999, and June 30, 2003 you may request a renewal of that license(s). A renewal fee for each year the license was not renewed between July 1, 2001 and the date of the renewal request will be required. This option is available until **June 30, 2005.** **After that date, any license that has not been renewed within one year after its expiration date will be canceled** and the license holder will be required to submit an application, pay the licensing fee, **meet current licensing requirements and pass any applicable examination or examinations** in order to reinstate the license.

The Department of Licensing will ensure that all informational notices regarding statutory or regulatory changes will be mailed to each licensee in good standing or on an inactive status of the affected license holder. You may access Substitute Senate Bill 6341 on the cosmetology web site at www.dol.wa.gov/plss/cosfront.htm. If you wish to obtain additional information or need clarification on any of the information contained in this notice, please contact us by telephone at (360) 664-6626 or through correspondence to the Department of Licensing, Business and Professions Division, Cosmetology Program, PO Box 9026, Olympia, Washington 98507-9026.